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Title:

Sub-leader, West Coast Sentinel

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of the year? Not just when our fancy demands a gesture of patriotic spirit.

DICTATORSHIP?

The situation within the Liberal and Country League illustrates the inability of Liberal Leader, Steele Hall to lead his party to anything other than a surrender of its declared party platform.

The attack being waged against the Legislative Council is one point in question. The outcome has left Mr. Hall in tatters and given an added incentive to Opposition Leader Dunstan to run roughshod over anything that might be left of the Constitution after Mr. Hall finishes with his undermining.

The Legislative Council has been friendly to the primary producer and country districts over the years and its mode of election determines legislation from a different area of interest. As a sober second thought on rash legislation, it has a vital function to play in the parliamentary life of this State, but this can only be accomplished if the Upper House is free to adopt an independent approach without coercion being exerted by such men as Dunstan or Hall.

Neither Hall nor Dunstan have any mandate from anybody to alter the constitution, or to change the function and means of electing the Upper House. In fact, when one considers that Mr. Dunstan campaigned violently to abolish the Upper House and failed even to gain a majority in the Lower House, one wonders just what claim either man has to legislate on Upper House questions.

Both say the other was rejected by the people, but there is no doubt that the one body which emerged smelling like a rose after the election was the Legislative Council.

If the Dunstan-Hall axis has its way, the Assembly will be handed into the hands of the metropolitan area and the farming community will have the luxury of city folk determining how the country should be run. It is within this element that we find the dictatorship of the majority—the very dictatorship which Mr. Dunstan wants for himself as the State's next premier after Steele Hall.

Eyre Member Ern Edwards has sounded the warning that such items as land laws would become restrictive under an A.L.P. government, and without the protection of the Legislative Council the farmer could very well find himself the victim of one-vote-one-value.

Hands off the Legislative Council! Who wants a second rate Assembly after watching the fumbling and bumbling going on within those Assembly walls during recent weeks?

West Coast Sentinel 30:10:68.

Dear Sir

With Compliments
(Sincerely) Ernest